

MAGNETIC PROTECTION OF HYDRAULIC SEAL

Abstract of the Invention

A cane harvester base cutter assembly includes a gearbox provided with an upper horizontal section that joins a pair of transversely spaced cylindrical wells. Each well has a bottom wall in which an upper drive shaft section of a base cutter leg is mounted for rotation. Each shaft section is received in a collar which is press fit into a hole in the associated well bottom wall and a seal is mounted on the shaft for preventing leakage along the interface between the shaft section and the sleeve. Ferric contaminants are prevented from falling onto the seals by ring-shaped contaminant collectors, including magnets, that are respectively mounted for rotation with the shafts at locations directly above the seals.

000113-051101